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SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 1621. Congressional declaration of purpose; use of existing facilities; cooperation with States

The Congress declares that a sound, efficient, and privately operated system for distributing and marketing agricultural products is essential to a prosperous agriculture and is indispensable to the maintenance of full employment and to the welfare, prosperity, and health of the Nation. It is further declared to be the policy of Congress to promote through research, study, experimentation, and through cooperation among Federal and State agencies, farm organizations, and private industry a scientific approach to the problems of marketing, transportation, and distribution of agricultural products similar to the scientific methods which have been utilized so successfully during the past eighty-four years in connection with the production of agricultural products so that such products capable of being produced in abundance may be marketed in an orderly manner and efficiently distributed. In order to attain these objectives, it is the intent of Congress to provide for (1) continuous research to improve the marketing, handling, storage, processing, transportation, and distribution of agricultural products; (2) cooperation among Federal and State agencies, producers, industry organizations, and others in the development and effectuation of research and marketing programs to improve the distribution processes; (3) an integrated administration of all laws enacted by Congress to aid the distribution of agricultural products through research, market aids and services, and regulatory activities, to the end that marketing methods and facilities may be improved, that distribution costs may be reduced and the price spread between the producer and consumer may be narrowed, that dietary and nutritional standards may be improved, that new and wider markets for American agricultural products may be developed, both in the United States and in other countries, with a view to making it possible for the full production of American farms to be disposed of usefully, economically, profitably, and in an orderly manner. In effectuating the purposes of this chapter, maximum use shall be made of existing research facilities owned or controlled by the Federal Government or by State agricultural experiment stations and of the facilities of the Federal and State extension services. To the maximum extent practicable marketing research work done under this chapter in cooperation with the States shall be done in cooperation with the State agricultural experiment stations; marketing educational and demonstrational work done under this chapter in cooperation with the States shall be done in cooperation with the State agricultural extension service; market information, inspection, regulatory work and other marketing service done under this chapter in cooperation with the State agencies shall be done in cooperation with the State departments of agriculture, and State bureaus and departments of markets.

(Aug. 14, 1946, ch. 966, title II, § 202, 60 Stat. 1087.)
SHORT TITLE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-532, §1, Nov. 22, 2000, 114 Stat. 2541, provided that: "This Act [enacting subchapter III of this chapter] may be cited as the 'Dairy Market Enhancement Act of 2000'."

SHORT TITLE

Section 201 of title II of act Aug. 14, 1946, provided that: "This title [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946'."

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of all officers, agencies, and employees of Department of Agriculture transferred, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of Agriculture by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 2, §1, eff. June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

SPECIALTY CROPS COMPETITIVENESS

Pub. L. 108-465, §§ 2, 3, title I, §101, Dec. 21, 2004, 118 Stat. 3882, 3883, provided that:

"SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

- "(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:
- "(1) A secure domestic food supply is a national security imperative for the United States.
- "(2) A competitive specialty crop industry in the United States is necessary for the production of an abundant, affordable supply of highly nutritious fruits, vegetables, and other specialty crops, which are vital to the health and well-being of all Americans.
- "(3) Increased consumption of specialty crops will provide tremendous health and economic benefits to both consumers and specialty crop growers.
- "(4) Specialty crop growers believe that there are numerous areas of Federal agriculture policy that could be improved to promote increased consumption of specialty crops and increase the competitiveness of producers in the efficient production of affordable specialty crops in the United States.
- "(5) As the globalization of markets continues, it is becoming increasingly difficult for United States producers to compete against heavily subsidized foreign producers in both the domestic and foreign markets.
- "(6) United States specialty crop producers also continue to face serious tariff and non-tariff trade barriers in many export markets.
- "(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act [see Short Title of 2004 Amendment note set out under section 3101 of this title] to make necessary changes in Federal agriculture policy to accomplish the goals of increasing fruit, vegetable, and nut consumption and improving the competitiveness of United States specialty crop producers.

"SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

"In this Act:

- "(1) The term 'specialty crop' means fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and nursery crops (including floriculture).
- "(2) The term 'State' means the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- "(3) The term 'State department of agriculture' means the agency, commission, or department of a State government responsible for agriculture within the State.

"TITLE I—STATE ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIALTY CROPS

"SEC. 101. SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANTS.

"(a) AVAILABILITY AND PURPOSE OF GRANTS.—Subject to the appropriation of funds to carry out this section, the Secretary of Agriculture shall make grants to States for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2009 to be used by State departments of agriculture solely to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops.